



Inside this edition



Business:
Facebook acquires Oculus VR

 Page 6

Sports:
Bulldog baseball back to its winning ways



 Page 7

Opinion:
The sentencing of death row

 Page 11

Variety:
Books vs. movies:
Which is better?



 Page 14

The campaign to forbid the use of a single word stirs up controversy

The 'Ban Bossy' movement

By Ashley Esper

Campus News Editor

The movement to ban the use of the word “bossy” in a derogatory context has been stirring up discussion in the media and across the United States. Led by Facebook executive, activist and author Sheryl Sandberg in conjunction with the Girl Scouts of America, the campaign is a powerful attempt to foster leadership in young girls. Chances are, if you keep up with social media or occasionally tune into the nightly news, you have heard of the operation; famous ambassadors including Beyoncé, Victoria Beckham, and Condoleezza Rice are also affiliates.

The premise of the attempt to ban the use of the word “bossy” is based upon the harsh reality that young girls are often discouraged from striving to attain leadership positions or from taking a stand as an initiating figure. This disinclination is built upon the fear that their peers will deem them “bossy.” The



target demographic of girls affected by the word are those at a vulnerable stage in social and intellectual development. When young boys of analogous age in a classroom setting are bossy, they are commonly admired by their classmates and are described as assertive, ambitious, and influential. Ridicule for becoming a leader at a young, volatile age is easily transferable to women’s hesitancy in

assuming authoritative positions later on in life; such is the basis for why the movement is stirring up such discussion.

In a study conducted by Harold Koplewicz of the Child Mind Institute, it was revealed that elementary school children exhibit a higher preference of being liked and approved by their peers over being a leader. There is a correlation between low self-esteem in teen girls and mental health issues, which Koplewicz points out. However, girls, on average, perform better than their male counterparts in school and earn a higher number of degrees as a group. Why is it then that women compile only a fraction of top executive positions? The campaign attributes disparity to the word “bossy.”

On the contrary, critics argue that instead of banning the word, it would be more beneficial and sustainable to educate girls on how to combat verbal attacks aimed at their personal attributes. The movement

See “Banning Bossy,” page 3

My angry vagina speaks up

The Vagina Monologues experience

By Laura Sprague

Contributing Writer

One year ago this week, I sat in the front row of chairs, closest to the stage in the old South and watched as a group of some of my best girl friends went up on stage. One by one they read words, words that I was almost too embarrassed to think, to a crowd of over one hundred people.

They read the Vagina Monologues—written by Eve Ensler—off little red cards, and the audience roared with laughter, gasps, and applause. The young women who spoke—Isindy, Heidi, Nastazia, to name a few—were my saviors as a first year student. I regretted that I was there in the audience immediately, but only because I would have rather been up on stage, dressed from head to toe in black and red, speaking out about the experience of being a woman.

In the days after the show I was quick to tell everyone about how amazing it was, about how it inspired me. I was met with

never be able to sit through that; I’d be way too uncomfortable.” I was horrified, but not surprised at how people perceived the show and my reaction to it. It’s simply not discussed here. The only time I hear students (especially females) talking about “touchy subjects”—masturbation, assault, rape, gender discrimination, sexuality, vaginas—was in an educational context, and usually part of an assigned discussion in a class or designated workshop. I wanted to talk!

This year I took the leap and signed up. I was chosen to read “My Angry Vagina”—rather



Toby Simon and the Vagina Monologues participants.

wasn’t until I started receiving those weird looks and awkward comments after signing up that I began to understand the anger behind the words.

My anger stemmed from the long hours spent trying to make my body look pretty, from the discomfort surrounding the discussions about being a woman, and the way every discussion I had with other girls was about boys or their own bad experiences. Most importantly, my anger came from this awful feeling deep down inside of me that I was simply not enough; that my body, my mind, my personality, my actions, were just not good enough. I was mad.

When I sat up on stage—this year in front of around two hundred people, including my

mom—I shouted the words I had been reciting in my head for too long. I didn’t see any of the faces from where I sat, and I didn’t hear the applause when I walked away from the microphone. My mind was at peace because all of that secrecy, discomfort, nervousness, anger, and silence was expelled.

I’ve been hearing nothing but good things from the people who attended, and nothing but regret from those who missed it. The Vagina Monologues are the conversation starter that this community needs. I encourage all female students to give it a try in their years here, for their own sake. I encourage everyone else to look forward to attending next year.

‘My mind was at peace because all of that secrecy, discomfort, nervousness, anger, and silence was expelled.’

nervous smiles, blatant grimaces and smirks, and remarks like, “Sounds like you couldn’t get much gayer...” “Didn’t know you liked vagina that much...” and even from other girls, “I would

appropriate for my circumstance, and completely relatable with my experience as a woman. The first practice nearly killed me; I was so nervous, and shaking like a leaf. I couldn’t get angry. It

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Only articles and letters including authors' names and phone number will be considered for publication. (Phone numbers will not be printed. They are for verification purposes only.) On rare occasions, names will be withheld upon request if the editors deem there is a compelling reason to do so. No letter will be printed if the author's identity is unknown to the editors.

Letters to the Editor that are between 400 and 600 words will have the best chance of being published. Also, except in extraordinary circumstances, we will not print submissions exceeding 600 words. All submissions are printed at the discretion of the E-board. The Archway staff reserves the right to edit for length, accuracy, clarity, and libelous material.

Letters and submissions must be submitted electronically from a Bryant email address. Bryant University community members can email submissions to: archway@bryant.edu. Letters and articles can also be given to The Archway on disk. They can be left in The Archway drop box on the third floor of the Bryant Center or disks can be mailed through campus mail to box 7.

The deadline for all submissions is by 5 p.m. on the Monday prior to publication (for a complete production schedule, contact The Archway office). Late submissions will be accepted at the discretion of The Archway staff and will more than likely will be held until the next issue.

Members of the Bryant community are welcome to take one copy of each edition of The Archway for free. If you are interested in purchasing multiple copies for a price of 50 cents each, please contact The Archway office. Please note that newspaper theft is a crime. Those who violate the single copy rule may be subject to disciplinary action.

Campus Calendar						
April						
Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
6:30pm Folk Music Singing Workshop- Interfaith Center	8pm Bumper Cars- MAC		7pm Velocity Dance Expo- Janikies			

Bulldog Bulletin

The Archway: Writers' Meetings, Mondays 5:30pm, Fisher Center Room 3



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Department of Public Safety Log

LARCENY
Mar 30, 2014-Sunday at 14:39
Location: RESIDENCE HALL
DPS received a report of a missing/stolen watch.

VANDALISM (SCHOOL BUILDING)
Mar 30, 2014-Sunday at 17:14
Location: RESIDENCE HALL
A DPS Officer found that an exit sign has been broken off the ceiling of a Residence Hall.

VANDALISM
Mar 31, 2014-Monday at 10:04
Location: TOWNHOUSE
An RD reported that his townhouse as well as his reserved parking signs were egged this past Saturday evening, 3/29/2014.

VANDALISM (RESIDENCE)
Apr 05, 2014-Saturday at 00:39
Location: TOWNHOUSE
A student reported that someone had thrown an object at his window and ripped the screen.

BIAS INCIDENTS None Reported
To report a bias incident or hate crime, go to www.bryant.edu/bias or call the Bias Incident Hotline at x6920
Bias related incident is a threatened, attempted, or completed action that is motivated by bigotry and bias regarding a person's real or perceived race, religion, natural origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, or gender status. Examples of these incidents include name calling, offensive language/acts, and graffiti/behavior.



Attention seniors!

Banning bossy

By Robin Warde
Contributing Writer

In just over a month, you will pass through the Archway and become Bryant University alumni! Congratulations! Here are some tips from the Office of Alumni Engagement to help you ease your transition.

1. Make sure you register for our on-line alumni directory to access all 40,000 alumni throughout the world. We'll be sending all seniors emails with instructions on how to register the first time.
2. Join the official Bryant Alumni Association Linked in group. Don't be fooled by imposters. Search for the Bryant University Alumni Association, and since it's a closed group, you will have to request to be a member. That way, we keep the chatter job and career-related. There is also a sub group for entrepreneurs called the Bryant Venture Forum, and four sub groups for Regional Networks: Bryant New York Alumni, Bryant Massachusetts Alumni, Bryant Connecticut Alumni and Bryant Rhode Island Alumni. Living someplace else? Talk to us about setting up a subgroup for your region.
3. Next, be sure to "friend" the Bryant University Alumni Association page. This will help you learn about upcoming alumni activities. We also have regional pages on Facebook, so if

you know you will be working and/or living in a certain city, you can search for an alumni group in your area by plugging in Bryant Alumni – most groups are arranged by state, (e.g. California) except Boston and New York.

4. On Twitter? Of course you are. We tweet @bryantalumni. Follow us to see what's going on with the alumni network.
5. Most importantly – use your Bryant network whenever you are looking for work or opportunities to advance. If you already have a job lined up, make sure that you continue to expand your Bryant ties within your industry. We host dozens of events and programs throughout the year for Bryant alumni to stay involved, and you are invited!



Continued from Page 1



is subjected to question from a variety of angles because of its specific focus on a word that is not explicitly used in a damaging context. Furthermore, the quality of bossiness is not necessarily synonymous with leadership or success, as the campaign readily suggests. Opponents are firm in the belief that abolishing the word "bossy" is advocating that the characteristics associated with bossiness are flawed, such as taking initiative and being outspoken.

Outside of context, most words or actions can be misconstrued. How fair is it to ban a word that may or may not be attributed to reluctance of women to assume leadership? Sheryl Sandberg claims that the word is a potential killer of women in leadership. If one puts thought to it, there are several potential killers that exist in the world, including fast food, cigarettes, and radiation from electronics. As a civilization enthusiastically committed to freedom of choice and freedom of speech, both proponents and adversaries know the harsh truth: whether or not a certain behavior is condoned, there will always be those who refuse to conform to rules and regulations set forth in the supposed best interest of society. Whether or not one supports the Ban Bossy campaign, it is more or less agreeable to recognize that boys and girls, as well as men and women alike, face adversity through a variety of different channels. The controversial movement is the start of a conversation that will draw attention to this alleged social tribulation.

Humans of Bryant: Discovering the true campus

By Daniel Chan
Contributing Writer

A picture speaks a thousand words. Perhaps it isn't enough to conclusively define a person, but it can offer a glimpse behind the curtain. This is the driving force behind Humans of Bryant, a photoblog created by Ben Heinemeyer and Rohan Vakil. Armed with a camera, they have made it their mission to give an honest and genuine face to the Bryant community. Inspired by Humans of New York by Brandon Stanton, Humans of Bryant features short interviews accompanied by a photo shot of the individual. Sometimes quotes consist of ten lines, sometimes only one. But no matter the length, each new profile helps paint a more detailed picture of the everyday people at Bryant.

The unexpected mother figure.
The quirky cook who thinks butter is magic.
Or maybe just your regular college student trying to make it.
"We liked the energy of Humans of New York," explained Vakil. "It's funny, it's insightful, you learn a lot from people that are there and just reading what they have to say".
Heinemeyer continued, "If you go to a University's page, it's scripted and they are telling you certain things. But what is everyday life like? Do I want to be a part of that community? I think that is important".
"Everybody is sort of programmed so its about getting past that programmed response to something more human and personal."

HONEST BEGINNINGS
The product of their partnership has already attracted 320 Facebook followers and 80 profiles, with its popularity being traced back to their simple but sincere approach to photojournalism.
Naturally, they seemed proud but humble about their accomplishments; so when asked about what got them

started. They stretched their arms across the sofa and began describing their own story.
"My sister went to see Brandon [Stanton] do his book talk and brought back a sign copied of his book," Heinemeyer said. I was actually in the hospital with my grandfather who wasn't doing so well at the time, and we would go through the book."
"Him and I were both reading and laughing, and it was just kind of ... timeless. It appeals to everyone".
With a smile, he looked over to Vakil and continued, "Rohan started taking pictures of everybody. He got obsessed with photography ... it was kind of annoying."
"So one night, we were just hanging out and I suggested this idea ... most of the time, we throw out crazy ideas but then the next morning, Rohan texted me and said "Let's do it!"."
Vakil, thinking back to Stanton's Humans of New York and what has motivated him to pursue the project, said, "The one that really sticks out for me ... they interviewed an Indian man and asked him what was his greatest investment. He said "My children". I literally asked my parents the same thing and they said exact same thing. You relate it so closely to your life and sometimes hearing it from another source makes an impact".
"Sometimes it is so unexpected. I have been shocked by what some people say immediately," Rohan said describing the interviews. "Conversations [would] go so deep so quickly.

FUTURE AND CHANGES
"What is your greatest fear?"
"Graduation."
That was Heinemeyer's response to his own Humans of Bryant interview. While these Bryant seniors remain committed to their site, the inevitable is slowly coming and their future with the site remains unclear.
"If we can find someone who is interested in carrying the site on, has a good enough camera, dedicated to interview people, and someone with solid interest in



One of the faces of Humans of Bryant, Cameron Burke (Humans of Bryant)

photography, then we would highly encourage them to take it on."
But as they tried to explain their situation, the reality that they have yet to think of future steps seemed to weigh on them.
Because it wasn't about advertising or future ventures for them. They were too busy enjoying the present; meeting the highly diverse Bryant community and sharing their stories with others. It is that sort of dedication and passion that has many readers constantly curious about their next interview.
But as if to prepare us, with a bittersweet taste on his tongue, Heinemeyer may have summed it up the best in his interview:
"I think it's taboo to say you don't like change ... it coincides with being human. It's inevitable. Change is inevitable".
The blog can be found at humansofbryant.tumblr.com, or at facebook.com/bryanthumans. For additional questions or if you are interested in taking up the project, please contact Rohan Vakil at rvakil@bryant.edu or Ben Heinemeyer at bheineme@bryant.edu.

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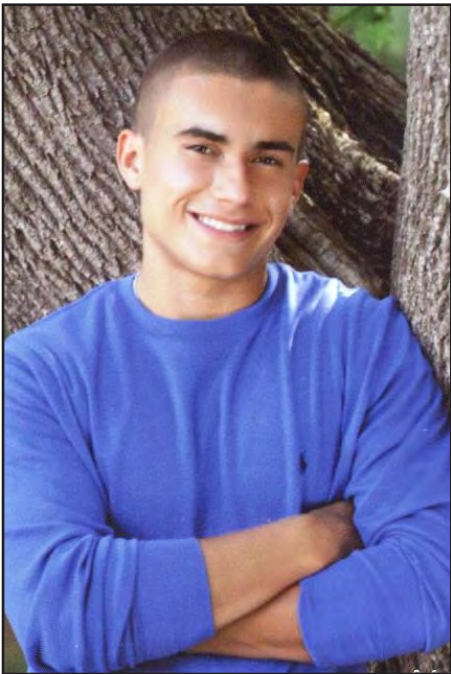
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Basketball tournament to honor student

By Haley Jones
PR Manager

Cam Groezinger Fitzpatrick was a young man who touched many hearts during his short time here at Bryant University. For those who do not know the story, in March 2013 Cam went home for spring break. This first night home



Cam unknowingly ate a cookie baked in peanut oil, which he was severely allergic to. He went into shock and passed away later that night.

Shortly after Cam’s passing, his mother, Robin, created The Cam Groezinger Fitzpatrick Memorial Foundation, a nonprofit organization which works to raise money for allergy awareness. The foundation also established a scholarship, which is given to one high school senior every year from his hometown (Plymouth, Massachusetts)

who plans to attend Bryant University in the fall.

My Management 200 group decided to work with this foundation, as the entire group was a classmate of Cam’s. Though we didn’t all know him personally, he made an impact on all of us in some sort of way.

The means for promoting allergy awareness and to help raise the funds for Cam’s foundation is to have a three on three basketball tournament. Each three player team will pay \$15 per team to enter. The tournament is on Sunday, April 13th from 1pm to 5pm. Robin will be there to tell her story about Cam and how society can become more aware of those who live with severe allergies. Once Robin’s speech is over, the tournament will start! A bracket of which teams are playing will be drawn up, and it will be a double elimination tournament. The top two teams will each receive a prize at the end (which will be announced at the tournament).

Though many students didn’t know Cam well, or at all for that matter, those who did know him can share amazing stories about how great a guy he was. It would be a great honor for Robin and her family if the entire Bryant University community could come out to support a friend and an external member of the Bryant Community.

Teams should be comprised of three people and the cost is \$15 per team to enter. Students, faculty, staff, etc. are all welcome to play in this event. If anyone does not want to play in the event, but still wants to participate, the sponsors would love the help! Feel free to contact camgfund@gmail.com . Donations are always welcome as well! There will be a table in the roto all week to sign up!

We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Wheels for Warriors giving back

By Alexandria Paxman
Contributing Writer

Looking for a local non-profit organization that you can help? Check out Wheels for Warriors! Based in Kingston Rhode Island, Wheels for Warriors is a branch of the well-known non-profit Operation Support Our Troops Inc. Founded by Mary Kay Salamone, the organization mirrors her passion for helping soldiers both overseas and back in the States. You won’t find a more worthwhile cause, with all proceeds being used directly to aid our soldiers. Wheels for Warriors aims to help those soldiers that were injured on tour overseas obtain a means of transportation when they come back home. Whether it be a car, van, or truck, Wheels for Warriors pays for the chassis of a whole new vehicle, which then can be altered for each individual soldier. The gift of a new vehicle from Wheels for Warriors is a blessing not only to the soldiers themselves, but also to the families who need a way of transporting their injured family members.

Imagine that you were a soldier, injured in battle; a car might not be your top priority, but what are you supposed to do? How will your family get you from one place to another? Wheels for Warriors is there to aid these soldiers and their families because after everything that they have done for our country, the gift of a new vehicle is just a small way to repay them for their outstanding efforts. Soldiers as young as 18 years of age are being deployed overseas and are returning

with horrible injuries that complicate not only their own lives, but the lives of their families. Wheels for Warriors is determined to give back to those soldiers who have sacrificed so much defending our freedom. Wheels for Warriors goes above and beyond to make sure that soldiers’ lives become just a little easier by giving them back the gift of transportation.

Wheels for Warriors has given numerous soldiers a new vehicle throughout its tenure as a non-profit organization. Although the recipients are mostly local, all qualified soldiers, as well as their families,

“Wheels for Warriors is determined to give back to those soldiers who have sacrificed so much defending our freedom.”

are welcomed and encouraged to apply. If you are a disabled soldier who needs a vehicle or you think you know somebody who does please visit their website: http://www.osotinc.org/register_your_soldier/index.php and register your soldier today. All applicants will be considered and Wheels for Warriors will do their best to aid each and every one of them.

Wheel for Warriors is a growing organization that

Ethanol: good or bad?

By May Vickers
Staff Writer

Due to the increasing limited availability of fossil fuels, alternative and renewable sources of energy have grown in importance over the past decade. There is a high need for sustainable sources of energy that will provide energy for our future generations. Although, renewable sources of energy establish a much cleaner environment, every energy source has pros and cons. In the United States of America, scientists use starch in corn kernels to produce ethanol as fuel. Ethanol production may seem like a great solution to the world’s energy crisis, but commercial production of ethanol from corn kernels causes many problems such as using large amounts of fertile land and not fully replacing the world’s current consumption of fossil fuels.

According to an article by Michael Sojka from Stanford University, “Fuel ethanol uses around 12 million acres of land for corn, about 15% of the current acreage used for corn production.” As the earth’s fossil fuel supply depletes, the world’s reliance on alternative fuels and bio fuels will increase thus increasing the amount of land used for ethanol production from corn. Corn is used in many food products and 70% of corn is used as food for livestock. Using more corn for ethanol production will greatly decrease the world food supply. Approximately 13% of the world’s population goes hungry every year, and substantially decreasing corn supplies worldwide will cause millions more to starve.



Secondly, for ethanol production from corn to truly be feasible, ethanol production must increase substantially to meet the world’s current demand for energy from fossil fuels. For example, in 2009, the United States of America would have had to produce 240 billion gallons of ethanol to equal the same amount of gasoline consumed. However, the United States of America only

produced 8.9 billion gallons of ethanol. With the current available technology, ethanol production from corn does not present a feasible technology to replace the world’s consumption of fossil fuels.

Our world truly needs renewable sources of energy before a tipping point of no return is reached. Using bio-fuels such as corn as an alternative and renewable energy source can be proven effective if world governments use bio-fuels in an energy efficient manner. More advanced research in the fields of alternative energies is needed to make renewable energy sources economically feasible in the near future. Without the assurance of a stable economy, governments will never switch over to renewable energy sources before it is too late. Lastly, the world’s perception that scientists will discover a perfect energy source with zero cons needs to change. There is no perfect energy source or “Mr. Good Energy,” but the world’s energy crisis can be solved through increased diversification of alternative energy sources. Through the use of many different sustainable energy sources such as solar power, bio-fuels, hydropower and backup generators powered by fossil fuels, countries will have long lasting and more sustainable energy supplies. By using this method, our world will have energy sources for future generations.

wants your help. Wheels for Warriors is looking for donations but more so, for awareness about the situations that these soldiers are going through. The true purpose of this organization is to help soldiers and give them what they deserve. To donate please go to the website: <http://www.osotinc.org/index.php> and for more information about how you can help, check out their Facebook pages by searching for Operation Support Our Troops and Wheels for Warriors. These soldiers have done so much for you, please help Wheels for Warriors in their continued mission to do something for them.



Wheels for Warriors

Applied Psych major

By Michelle Scali
Contributing Writer

As an Applied Psychology major at Bryant, I have been asked the question “Why Bryant?” more times that I ever could have imagined or could attempt to count. Another question that I am frequently asked is “Did you plan on that major when you decided to come here?” My answer to the second question is in fact, “yes.”

I toured Bryant as a junior in high school and immediately fell in love with the campus and community atmosphere. Beyond that, I was blown away by the psychology department faculty. Every professor was approachable at events, passionate about their fields, and appeared to take a genuine interest in their students. The faculty takes this so personally that each Applied Psychology major has a faculty advisor and there are so many opportunities to have one-on-one interaction.

One of those one-on-one opportunities is the research assistant opportunity for the department. This student is on work study and needs to be nominated by the faculty. I was lucky enough to have this position during my sophomore year. I did some literature searches for Professor Trunzo, but my main project was with Professors Weinberger, Butler, and Schumacher called “Do you see what I see? Perceptions of Physical Activity in Child Care”.

I was able to be a part of administering the surveys, coding data, looking at the analysis and working on the poster. I was able to help present the poster we created at both REDay 2012 with Professor Butler and the Association for Psychological Science conference (APS) in Chicago that summer with Professor Weinberger and Professor Butler.

The conference was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity which was funded by the university. As an undergrad, I had never imagined being able to attend a conference without having to pay my own way. While at the conference, I had the chance to see other up-and-coming research, interact with professionals in the field, and attend informational sessions which have been invaluable to my experience. The personal attention given by the Applied Psychology Department faculty has reaffirmed my decision to attend Bryant time and time again and I have never second-guessed my decision to be here.

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Kelsie’s Korner Cinnamon Scones

By Kelsie Hollenbeck
Staff Writer

What a wake-up call! If the smell of cinnamon wafting under your nose doesn’t get you out of bed, I don’t know what will. These cinnamon scones will make you push your cereal bowl aside, never to go back to those boring oatmeal mornings. One scone in your stomach and I guarantee a 100% better day ahead of you. You may not even need that early morning coffee after the sugar rush these scones will provide. Loaded with sweet, cinnamon flavor delicately balanced for a light and moist taste, these scones will make a Monday seem like Friday. Yes, you can stop at a nearby café and buy a scone, but your wallet will be happier if you made these instead. After you put them in the oven, you are sure to say, “That’s it? That’s all the work I had to do?” If you ever need something quick and delicious to whip up, impress the guests, and turn your home into a cozy breakfast nook, this is your go-to recipe.

- Ingredients:**
- Scone Batter
 - 1 3/4 cups (8 3/4 ounces or 235 grams) all-purpose flour
 - 3 tablespoons granulated sugar
 - 1 tablespoon baking powder
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt
 - 8 tablespoons (4 ounces or 115 grams) unsalted butter, cold, cut into 1/2-inch cubes
 - 1/4 cup (60 mL) half-and-half, cold
 - 1 large egg
 - Filling
 - 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
 - 2 teaspoons cinnamon
 - 1 tablespoon granulated sugar to sprinkle on top



- Directions:**
- Place an oven rack in the middle position. Preheat the oven to 375°F (190°C). Line a sheet pan with parchment paper.
 - To make the batter:
 - 1.in a large bowl, combine the flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt.
 - 2.Cut the butter into the dry mixture until it resembles coarse cornmeal but is not clumping up. Stir in the half-and-half and egg until combined.
 - To make the filling:
 3. Roll out the dough on a lightly floured surface to a 10 x 6-inch rectangle.
 4. Sprinkle 1 tablespoon sugar and 1 teaspoon cinnamon over half of the rectangle, and then fold it in half.
 5. Roll the dough out again into an 8- x 6-inch rectangle. Sprinkle the remaining tablespoon of sugar and teaspoon of cinnamon over half of the rectangle, then fold in half.
 6. Pat the dough into a 6-inch circle, and cut into 6 wedges.
 7. Evenly space the wedges on the pan, sprinkle with sugar, and bake until golden and just firm, about 15 to 17 minutes.
 8. Let the scones cool on the pan for 5 minutes. Then transfer to a wire rack to cool. Serve warm or at room temperature.



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Facebook Acquires Oculus VR

By Kevin Kelly
Contributing Writer



Virtual reality: the pinnacle of entertainment and every gamers dream. Over the past two years, Oculus VR, with founder Palmer Luckey at the helm, has been working to make virtual reality the future of gaming. Their main product, the Oculus Rift, received an incredibly favorable response after a demonstration at E3 in 2012 and went on to receive over \$2.4 million via crowd funding.

So just what exactly was Mark Zuckerberg thinking when he announced the acquisition of Oculus VR for \$2 billion by Facebook on March 25? Gamers as well as investors are still stumped at the social media site's purchase, and many more are worried about what will become of the device that was once touted as the future of virtual reality and gaming.

Facebook's acquisition of Oculus VR raises a lot of

questions at first glance, but when looking at the bigger picture, Facebook's strategy comes into focus. As Forbes contributor Gordon Kelly points out, Facebook is no longer just a social media giant; its acquisitions in recent years have positioned it to become a conglomerate within the technology industry. Often in technology acquisitions, the purchased company is stripped down to its core value and that aspect is used to complement the purchasing company. Facebook's acquisition strategy as a conglomerate appears to be much different.

Zuckerberg's own Facebook post stated "Oculus will continue operating independently within Facebook," assuring the public that its value will not be lost. Other acquisitions by Facebook, including Instagram and WhatsApp, have utilized similar strategies, continuing to operate independently but utilizing Facebook's assets and market power to ensure their continued success. Facebook's emergence as a conglomerate comes as a surprise, but its ability to continuously generate revenue means it can continue to fund its acquisitions.

The online backlash from Facebook's unexpected purchase has been swift and harsh. Many

early supporters of Oculus VR from its Kickstarter days were quick to criticize Oculus for their apparent "sellout" and betrayal of the indie and community-focused business model to which they were originally committed. Palmer Luckey doesn't see it this way however, heading to Reddit to say that he sees it as an opportunity to "execute on some of our most creative ideas and take risks that were otherwise impossible."

While the vision may stay the same, the question over creative control undoubtedly crosses the mind of those anticipating the release of the Oculus Rift. In his announcement, Zuckerberg stated that gaming would continue to be the focus of the project, and that other applications for the classroom and communication would be secondary.

However, with Facebook's reliance on ad revenue, it seems likely that Facebook's management team will exercise some control to integrate Facebook into the Oculus Rift in order to expand its social media reach as well as bolster ad revenue, a fact that gamers and tech junkies everywhere fear will soon become a reality.

Pay packages of top Google Execs

By John Zeiner
Business Editor

This past year Google paid its co-founders, Larry Page and Sergey Brin, their usual \$1 salaries while Executive Chairman Eric Schmidt's compensation more than doubled to \$19.3 million. A significant portion of Schmidt's raise was on behalf of stock grant valued at \$11.4 million. According to regulatory documents filed Friday, the grants were issued by Google to make up for an administrative error that occurred in February 2011 while handling another large award given to Schmidt. Without the mix-up, Schmidt's most recent pay package would have risen 4 percent from the \$7.6 million he received in 2012.

Since Google Inc. went public nearly a decade ago, Page, Google's CEO, and Brin, another top executive, have insisted on capping their salaries at \$1 annually. They joined a group of numerous Silicon Valley executives in this symbolic gesture; they have accumulated large fortunes through stock ownership in their respective companies. Brin, 40, and Page, 41, both currently own Google stock worth about \$26 billion. Not to be overlooked, Schmidt, 58, has also amassed wealth estimated at \$9 billion by Forbes magazine. He also limited his salary to \$1 annually while he was CEO.

Since Schmidt turned over his CEO position to Page three years ago, the pay scale has changed dramatically. In 2011, Schmidt received compensation valued at \$101 million, with most of

the money coming from restricted stock which was designed to keep him working at Google. Recently, Google disclosed that Schmidt is receiving another stock award valued at \$100 million this year.

In his new role, as Google's executive chairman, Schmidt primarily handles government relationships, regulatory issues, and company acquisitions. As a token of appreciation for a job well done, The Mountain View, California company paid Schmidt his maximum cash bonus of \$6 million in addition to his \$1.25 million salary. He was the only employee who qualified for their maximum bonus last year.

Google and its stockholders fared well last year as well. The company's earnings rose 20 percent from the previous year to \$12.9 billion and its stock price gained 58 percent. Standard & Poor's 500 index increased by 30 percent last year. This provokes the debate topic of whether top corporate executives are compensated too greatly. Critics believe that the work they do does not warrant their astronomical pay packages, while supporters believe the revenue they help generate for the company is far beyond what they are paid.



Keep your options open

By Professor Michael Roberto
Faculty Writer

When we create teams in the workplace, we often find ourselves frustrated with the results. We anticipate that the whole will be greater than the sum of the parts, yet the team does not always achieve this potential. When a team falters, we should examine several potential causes: bad leadership, poor team design, flawed team process, and a climate in which people do not feel safe speaking up. Leadership, design, process, and climate are key enablers of high team performance.

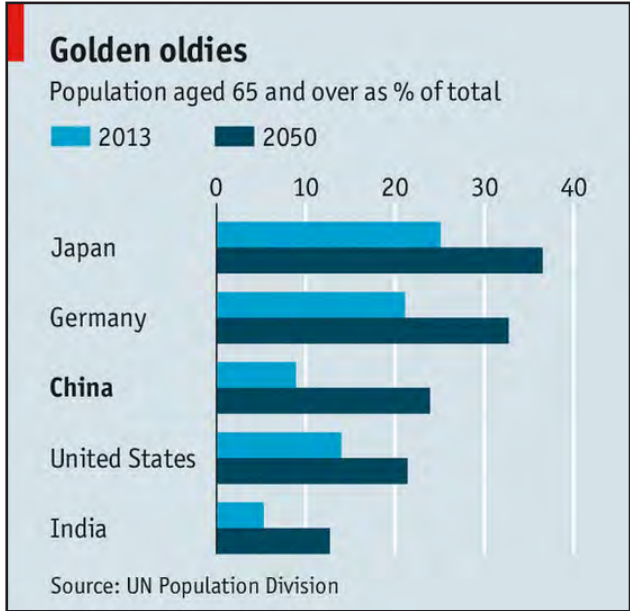
Let's take a look at team design for a moment. What are some of the classic design mistakes that organizations make?

1. Leaders build teams that are too big. In a story in the Wall Street Journal, Apple engineer Greg Christie describes how the original iPhone development team was "shockingly small." In this great blog post by Stanford Professor Bob Sutton, he explains that the optimal number for most teams is seven, plus or minus two. In my latest book, I talk about Intuit's "two-pizza" rule - build teams that can be fed with two large pizzas. The "two-pizza" rule fits pretty nicely with Sutton's guidance, which is based on research by scholars such as the late Richard Hackman.

2. Leaders create teams with "invisible" homogeneity. Many leaders focus on gender, racial, and ethnic diversity when building a team. Can a "diverse" team along these dimensions still be considered quite homogenous along other important dimensions? YES! Many teams with "visible" diversity have "invisible" homogeneity. In other words, many members come from the same educational institutions, have the same functional backgrounds, and have worked in the same company or industry for years. Homogeneity along these teams mean that the team members think alike in many ways and do not bring fresh alternative perspectives to the table.

3. Leaders build teams in which members do not have a clear commitment to making the team's work a high priority. In many cases, people serve on multiple committees or task forces at work. They are serving on a team in their "spare time" at work. The team's task is not a focus of their attention. If too many members fall into this camp, the result will not be successful. Leaders need to think carefully about how team members are selected, as well as how many teams a particular individual is serving on simultaneously. In an odd way, the star performers in an organization can become the problem here. They are often assigned to many teams and task forces because they are so smart and effective. However, they can easily find themselves spread too thin. As such, they become a liability to certain teams on which they serve, because they cannot provide the group enough attention and effort.

Weekly Business Graph



Weekly Business Quote

"If business doesn't thrive, it hurts America. We need improved relations, more collaboration, more thought and more consistency as we go about trying to make sure we have the best country in the world. Not scapegoating and finger-pointing."
- Jamie Dimon

Bulldogs baseball back to its winning ways

'Dogs lead the pack in the NEC after midseason surge

By Justin Beaucage
Sports Editor

One of the toughest parts about being one of the best teams in the conference is always being targeted. When a team is coming off a championship or division crown every other team is coming after them, and will make sure they play their best against the champion. Sometimes, it can be difficult, as it is challenging to defend a championship.

At the beginning of this season, this was the story of Bulldogs Baseball.

When the season kicked off, the Bulldogs struggled out of the gate as reigning NEC Champions. Opening against some of the toughest competition, not just the in their division, but that the league has to offer, the team lost many of its opening games. They failed to have any run support and were looking like they would struggle to repeat as champions of the conference. The Bulldogs saw themselves fall to a losing record, something that shouldn't happen to a team that is expecting to repeat as conference champions.

However, after a few more games the Bulldogs are back to their winning ways, grabbing victories in 12 of their last 14 games.

For the second week in a row, the Bulldogs are ranked as the top team in the



Bryant Bulldogs have been on quite the winning streak in the NEC (MCT Campus)

region and are the number one ranked team in the NEIBA polls. Everything is clicking at the right time for the team.

The Bulldogs seem to be in cruise control now. They are on a winning streak at the mid point of the season, and are one of the best teams in the conference. Not only are they beating teams with their phenomenal pitching rotation, but the bats are starting to come along as well. Their losses came by a combined 4 runs,

and some of their games have taken extra innings to decide. Not only are they one of the best teams in the conference, but they are one of the most exciting, always keeping fans on the edges of their seats.

Right now, the Bulldogs sit at an 18-9 record, and look to finish strong for the rest of the year. The team has always been known for its strong pitching, but it is now improving their bats as well. This season, the team is batting .294, with an on base

percentage of over .300. The team has also hit 18 home runs, and has also scored 193 runs in just 27 games, which is near tops in the conference. The Bulldogs know to score runs, getting on base is one of the biggest contributors to their success, and the Bulldogs have been one of the best teams doing this this year. If the Bulldogs can keep their hitting up to par with their pitching, there might not be a team that can compete with them in the conference.

Part of the Bulldogs' success can be pointed to their play at Bulldog Stadium. The team is undefeated at home this year, knowing how to protect their yard. If the team can string together a couple more impressive games at home, teams won't want to play them there, especially in the postseason.

The Bulldogs are starting to gain the attention they deserve by the conference and around the league. This week, rookie Matt Albanese won the Co-Rookie of The Week due to his exceptional efforts. He hit an incredible .381 with two doubles, an RBI, and six runs scored. He has been one of the best offensive weapons for the Bulldogs this season, and he will continue his dominance in just his rookie year.

The team's next test will be Wednesday, when they will play South Kingstown. Hopefully, the Bulldogs can continue their quest for another NEC championship.

Dreams Conn-quired: Uconn wins thriller over Kentucky to capture NCAA championship

By Justin Beaucage
Sports Editor

For months, fans have been filling out their brackets, following their favorite teams and seeing who would survive March's Madness in the NCAA Tournament. After what has been one of the most surprising tournaments in years, it came down to two "Cinderella Stories" to see who would be college basketball's champion. With each team facing some adversity and controversy, the stars were aligned, and two of college basketball's best teams were set to fight for the ultimate crown.

Uconn defeated the University of Kentucky, 60-54, to cap off what was a phenomenal tournament, giving Uconn its fourth National Championship in the last sixteen seasons. The seventh seeded Huskies completed what was an improbable journey to the title, beating teams like Florida, Villanova, and Michigan State to get to the final championship game. Playing the underdog role, the Huskies shocked the world, and captured a well-deserved championship. There shouldn't be any credit taken away from the Wildcats. As an eighth seed with a core of young players, Kentucky weren't so heavily favored in their games, either. They knocked off Wisconsin and the undefeated Wichita State in their title run. Ultimately, the Huskies played a better game, and capped off a 30-8 season with a championship.

Uconn point guard Shabazz Napier was the star of the game, as he has been for the Huskies all tournament long. He completed his collegiate career with not just a championship, but had 22 points and was named the Most Outstanding Player of the NCAA Tournament. He also became the fourth player, along with Derrick Rose, Kemba Walker, and Larry Bird, to have 125 points, 25 rebounds, and 25 assists in a single tournament. That puts him in some elite company, and solidifies himself as one of college basketball's great players.

As close as the game was, the Huskies never gave up a lead to the Wildcats. From tip-off it seemed like it was UConn's game to lose. The Huskies began the game on an 11-2 run. Napier scored 15 of his 22 points in the first half and really created some problems for the Wildcat defense. At one point in the game, Napier and



UConn captures its first championship in the last two years (MCT Campus)

teammate Ryan Boatright had 16 points, while the entire Kentucky team had 15 points. Kentucky had problems early on offense, as they made five shots and had six turnovers in the first half of the opening frame. However, the Wildcats would fight back, as they began to host their own block party. Freshman Julius Randle and Alex Poythress made some huge defensive stops, giving the Harrison brothers some opportunities to score. After trailing by as much as eleven, Kentucky finished the first half on a 9-2 run, and brought the game to a 35-31 halftime score. In all of its tournament games, Kentucky had either trailed or was tied at the half. Even though there should still have been some panic, Kentucky gained some momentum into the next half.

In the opening minutes of the second half, Kentucky carried that momentum as one of the Harrisons knocked down a three-pointer to begin the half. Meanwhile, in the first five minutes of the half Uconn only made two of its first ten shot attempts. After a tough contested layup from Harrison, Kentucky was only down by one. Then Napier and Niels Giffy combined to make some tough shots, including a three by Giffy to give the Huskies a 9 point lead.

Kentucky wasn't ready to give up. In what was perhaps one of the biggest plays of the game, James Young dunked on what seemed like the entire Uconn team. It gave the Wildcats a boost and some momentum heading into the later half of the game. After some big plays from Randle and Poythress, Kentucky was able to cut the lead to just four with just over three minutes remaining. However, in these moments big players make big plays, and this was Napier's time to win the big game. He made great plays down the stretch, including a contested midrange shot to secure the final victory for UConn, 60-54 in what was a great game for both teams.

Despite the loss, Kentucky has a foundation set to be competitive again. They were the first team to play seven freshman in a National Championship game and should return some of their players next season. Uconn - although Napier is leaving - should have some of its important players return and could make another run yet again. So after an exciting wrap up of what was a wild March Madness, congratulations to UConn, and it will be exciting to see what they will do to stay competitive next year.

Sports: more than just a fun game for athletes

Some fans forget that athletes are people, too, and there is much more than playing involved

By Brent Booth
Contributing Writer

What could make two grown men share tears of joy? What can make two random strangers hug as if they are long lost soul mates? What can create a bond between children and their guardians? The answer is simple, sports games. It seems as though it is impossible that activities that we learn as children can have such strong pulls on our heart and invoke such emotion, but the truth of the matter is that it is because these events are not “just a game”. They are entirely more than that.

In many homes across the United States (regardless of the sport) you are taught to “believe” in a team. You are brought up to support them through thick and thin, in good times and in bad, almost indicative of a marriage but at an even earlier and more vulnerable age. The games represent what cannot be quantified with numbers. They are a bond and allegiance that is a constant throughout turbulent years.

Sports seem to have a different pull on people for different reasons. It can help to pull people away from reality in all walks of life. If someone is going through a tough time, they can still count on the New York Yankees to be on. They can still lose themselves for those 3 hours 162 times a year. Grown men in both Chicago and Boston believe and continue to pass down the belief in curses.

Sports can help a father and an estranged child have common ground,



Sports are so much more than just the game (MCT Campus)

which I personally can attest to. Time and time again examples are presented on the grandest of stages of how sports can transcend the title of being just a game, and become an inspiration or a guiding light to all that choose to follow.

One obvious example that comes to mind when you think of sports uplifting a city is the Boston Red Sox winning the World Series this past year after the Boston Bombings took place. An entire city was not only shocked but devastated

by the horrific actions of two young men. But at the city of Boston and its victims’ weakest moment they turned to believe in a team of underdogs. In a time where freedom, safety, and health were in question, they knew they could escape what had happened through the bearded brothers on the Boston Red Sox. Red Sox designated hitter, David Ortiz, who was not even born in the United States, but still a local hero because of his abilities in a game, delivered a speech that served

as the voice of resurgence and recovery. If baseball was just a game, why would people care what someone who wasn’t even from our country thought on the matter?

An even bigger example is what has been known as the “Miracle on Ice”. This game was between two countries in a nuclear standoff playing each other in a simple “game” of ice hockey in the 1980 Winter Olympics. All members of the United States team were under 23, barely even adults.

To give some background “For the first time in the history of our country a majority of our people believe that the next five years will be worse than the past five years,” (as then President Carter addressed in his speech in 1979 titled “Crisis in Confidence”). But with a victory over the then USSR the United States was able to reestablish a belief in America and freedom. Men who may have disagreed on politics, religion, abortion, etc. came together and cheered and cried for a “game”.

There are few other things in this world that could blur the lines of fundamental beliefs and principles besides sports games. And that is because, as I stated before, it is more than just a game. It is a greater power that not only allows people to forget about their hardships; it also creates common ground, and is something constant throughout their lives. For those that are not involved in these events it may never make sense, but the truth of the matter is, for those who believe, it is so much more than a game.

Durant gone wild: Kevin Durant proving he is NBA’s best player in chase of first MVP

By Justin Beaucage
Sports Editor

With the NBA season slowly coming to an end, there is plenty of talk and speculation about the playoffs, finals, and races for the MVP. However, one of the more fascinating stories in this NBA season has been the play of Kevin Durant, who is on pace for not only his fourth scoring title, but also his first MVP award.

Durant has, by far, been the best player in the NBA this season. He has played at a level that has not been seen in quite some time. Despite going through hardships and injuries on his team, Durant has lifted the Thunder to the second best record in the Western Conference, and has been one of the best players all season long. He is averaging over 31 points per game, an amount that is almost unheard of in the NBA. He is also leading the league in PER with a rating of just less than 30. He has improved in his assists, steals, and rebounds per game. To say that Durant will be hoisting his first NBA MVP Trophy this season is probably a safe assumption.

However, one of his most impressive accomplishments this season just happened recently, when he broke Michael Jordan’s record of consecutive games scoring 25 or more points in 41 straight games, an accomplishment that is one of the toughest in the NBA to achieve. Breaking any of Jordan’s records just shows how dominant Durant has been this year. He has scored over 40 points on multiple occasions, and even scored over 50 in a contest earlier this season. The NBA, perhaps, has not seen scoring like this since Jordan dominated the league back when. Clearly, Durant is not just the most dominant scorer, but he is the most dominant player in the NBA as of right now.



Kevin Durant has been the NBA’s best player this year (MCT Campus)

The big debate, however, about Durant is whether or not this will finally lead him to a championship this year. So many times, Durant has been so close to championship gold and has failed. Two seasons ago, he lost in his first NBA Finals Appearance in five games. Last year, the Thunder were quickly eliminated by Memphis in the second round thanks to injuries on the team. It hasn’t always been easy for Durant, but this year might be Durant’s best shot at winning his first title.

Now does this mean this will be his only chance at a championship? Not at all. Durant is still one of the best players in the NBA, and he is only going to get better. With the team around him, Durant could be set up to win multiple championships. If he continues to

improve upon his game even more, he could be hoisting more than one championship with the Thunder. It also speaks volumes about Durant that he was able to put up these kind of numbers while playing in the Western Conference. This conference is a lot more competitive and there are much better teams. All of this adds more to what Durant has been able to do this season.

He was the second pick in the NBA Draft, has finished second multiple times in both MVP and scoring titles, and he was second to LeBron James in winning his first championship. Like Durant has said, he’s tired of being second. Maybe for once, Durant will be first, as he hoists both his first MVP and his first NBA Championship this season.

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Bad boys of the league: Jackson’s release reminds us of troubling athletes that are in sports

By Matt Gillen
Staff Writer

The recent cutting of superstar wide receiver Desean Jackson by the Philadelphia Eagles reflects a new strategy for dealing with a decades old issue in the NFL. One prominent theory on the move states that Jackson was cut from the team due to the WR’s alleged affiliation with gang members. Although he didn’t directly take part, in the past few years DJax’s name has come up in relation to two separate murders in Los Angeles. Both murders involved the Crips, a nationwide gang with an estimated 55,000 members. Jackson’s friend was arrested for the first murder, the shooting of a 14 year old boy. Shortly after the arrest the receiver posted a picture of the man, Theron Shakir, on Instagram with the caption, “Free Trezzy #Real1 #Jaccpot”. Jaccpot is Jackson’s record label that Theron is signed on as a rapper. The second murder happened after a party, outside of a building that turned out to be leased or owned by one of Jackson’s family members. None of this evidence implicates Desean in any crimes but it is still very concerning to the parties invested in the receiver financially. Organizations with a direct stake in Djax and his



What happened with DeSean Jackson may open up investigations with other teams (MCT Campus)

behavior/reputation are the NFL, his team, and any sponsors he is signed on with. Keeping in mind that these character concerns are not uncommon in today’s NFL, that doesn’t mean they should go overlooked. Teams are being more mindful and proactive about players’ off the field activities since the heavily

publicized murder investigation and subsequent arrest of ex-Patriots tight end Aaron Hernandez. Another even more recent example is the bullying scandal between Richie Incognito and Jonathan Martin of the Miami Dolphins. In that case, Martin effectively quit the team after he claimed he was bullied by

Incognito and others on the team to the point of a mental breakdown. This situation occurred in the middle of the Fins’ season and was covered nationally on TV, radio and in print for months. The incident served as a damaging distraction to the Dolphins team during their run to make the playoffs. It’s easy to think that players

are employees and what they do “off the clock” should be held in a separate light than what they do on the field but that is absolutely not true. Being a professional sports player is a 24 hour job because they are always in the limelight and everything they do is put under a microscope for the world to see. Desean Jackson or any other pro’s actions, negative or positive, reflect on the image of the aforementioned parties with a stake in him. The team, the league, and sponsors’ values to fans and consumers will fall if the player is viewed in a negative light. This drop in value becomes greater the more well known the player is. Therefore, professional sports players have an obligation – legally and otherwise – to act right and maintain a positive image. So, the case of the Eagles cutting Jackson is very unique because it appears that the team cut a top notch player of his stature on the basis of bad off field behavior, which is a rare move. Keeping with the business perspective, the team felt in light of the big picture Desean could become more of a liability than his positive production on the field could provide. It will be interesting to see if other teams hop onto this trend of valuing players more by their character than their statistics.

Week’s Best Sports Tweets

Dwight Howard @DwightHoward 14h
Wow what a game. Congrats to Kevin Ollie and the uconn huskies. Julius randle great season.

LeBron James @KingJames 16h
No way u take another PG in the lottery before Napier.

Robert Griffin III @RGIII 18h
No matter what, have to stay above the fray. Same ones bad mouthing you on TV and radio are smiling in your face asking for favors

Nate Robinson @nate_robinson 13h
Sounds like a lot of y’all had #StruggleBrackets out there. lol #MarchMadness

Spring Weekend student ticket distribution begins next week!

Monday April 14th - Friday, April 18th
3:30 pm - 7:30 pm
2nd floor of the Fisher Center outside of Room 2C

GRAD FAIR AND SENIOR INFORMATION MEETINGS

Wednesday, April 16, 2014

Grad Fair from 10:00AM-2:00PM
Purchase your cap and gown, class ring and yearbook.
Sign up for the Alumni Newsletter, learn more about your class gift, have your graduation photo taken and more!

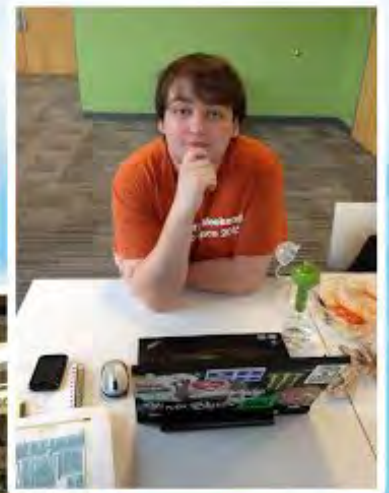
Senior Information Meetings - Choose one of the following
12:00 PM - 2:30PM - 4:00PM - 6:00 PM
Review all details related to Commencement and pick up your 5 tickets.
Meetings will last approximately 45 minutes. Must bring your ID.

MANDATORY FOR ALL GRADUATING SENIORS

STUDENTS SPEAK OUT

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF BRYANT IN THE SPRING?

DAN DESIMONE
SOPHOMORE
"KAN JAM"



ALEX SCANLON
FRESHMAN
"SEEING CAMPUS"



COURTNEY KRASENICS
FRESHMAN
"BEING OUTSIDE"



DANIELLE GOLDSTEIN
SOPHOMORE
"LYING ON THE LAWN"

TUPP' MUDDER 2014



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AND DIRTY OBSTACLE COURSE!!!"**

The sentencing of death row

By Nicholas Calabro
Staff Writer



In all of the United States, there is a place that you never want to be, and it stretches across several states. This place is commonly referred to as Death Row. It is an exclusive place, for the most dangerous of criminals (mostly rapists and murderers). There are people that argue, not only do they deserve it, but that it prevents future crimes. Others argue that it is wrong for people against murder to believe that you can justifiably kill a person. So the question is, which one of these groups has the moral high ground?

This sounds like it is almost no contest. At least most people do not want to live in a world where murderers and rapists can be unpunished. This is because, that would indicate that this behavior is acceptable, so punishment is justifiable. But now I ask, what kind of punishment is justifiable? Is death truly the one that is best for society at large?

Let's start with a closer examination of the arguments in support of the death

penalty. According to a presentation given at the University of Richmond, they stem from the belief that nothing is more sacred to an individual than their life, therefore losing it is the ultimate punishment. Again, this appears to be common sense. Supporters go on to argue that murder rates are lower in states that have the death penalty because of its deterrence, and that the more executions there are the less murders there are. As with all hypotheses, the ones just mentioned require testing.

In the same University of Richmond presentation, the murder rates of states with the death penalty were compared to those of states without the death penalty. For the first hypothesis, they compared Texas (a death penalty state) to Michigan (a non-death penalty state). Recall that this difference should cause Texas to have a lower crime rate than Michigan. But, according to this presentation, from the year 1970 to the year 2000 it was Texas having more crimes, except for the year 2000 (by only .8 per 100,000). And when Texas was higher in murder rates than Michigan, it was by much more significant margins, reaching 6.7 more per 100,000 at one point.

But, one could argue that this would not be a good sample for fifty states, so there was another test. This one was between Virginia (a death penalty state) and Massachusetts (a non-death penalty state). This went further in disproving the first hypothesis, as Virginia's murder rate stayed consistently, and significantly, above that of Massachusetts.

But what about between states that have a death penalty? The second hy-

pothesis states that the states that use this punishment more aggressively will have less crimes punishable by death. Take for example, Missouri and Montana both of which have the death penalty, with Missouri being the more aggressive with it. Like the first hypothesis, the second one does not appear to hold, because Missouri had significantly higher murder rates than Montana from 1976-2004. Now let's give hypothesis 2 the same sampling as for hypothesis 1, and see the results from another pair of states, for instance Oklahoma vs. Pennsylvania. Again, both of these states have the death penalty, and Oklahoma has had a larger number of executions from 1976-2004. According to the hypothesis therefore, Oklahoma should have a lower rate of murder than Pennsylvania. Even though this test has closer results than the Missouri vs. Montana test, Oklahoma still had a higher rate of murder than Pennsylvania from 1976-2004, which goes toward disproving the second hypothesis.

To recap, the two fundamental hypotheses to support the use of the death penalty as a way to improve society have been disproven on two occasions each. Can it be said that the higher rates are 100% attributable to the death penalty with 100% certainty? I doubt that, but these tests still prove

to me that the death penalty cannot be declared as absolute a remedy as much as supporters believe it could. In addition to these tests, on a personal note, with the inclusion of DNA evidence, we have revisited some crimes far in the past, crimes for which people had been executed. As it turned out, these people were innocent and it is way too late to repair the damage. As opposed to other punishments, once the death penalty has been carried out, nothing can be done.

These constitute the issues I have with the death penalty, it does not work for society, and if somebody is wrongly convicted of a capital crime, not only is the real offender still out there, but now the legal system itself would soon kill an innocent person. There is no doubt that murderers and rapists should be punished, but now I ask should we do it with murder? A well-respected wise man once said, "an eye for an eye will make the whole world blind."



Miley Cyrus: bad influence or hero to feminism?

Miley may be different than she was in her past, but her beliefs remain the same and have some positives

By Grace Morgan
Contributing Writer

Whether you love her or hate her, it is impossible to deny the fact that Miley Cyrus has made a huge impact on pop culture and the media in the past year. Miley's Bangerz tour made a local stop last Wednesday, April 2 when she performed at TD Garden in Boston. Her set list included the expected hits from her Bangerz album, such as "FU", "Do My Thang", "Adore you", "We Can't Stop", and "Wrecking Ball". There were also throw back songs including "Party in the USA" and "Can't Be Tamed."

While the show was filled with Miley's usual level of raciness and inappropriate dancing, fans in the audience also say that there was a sadness about the night. Miley's dog had died the night before, and she actually shed tears while asking the crowd to help her get through the night.

Miley has become much more than a musical artist though. She is now making an impact on college curriculums. Skidmore College, a private liberal arts school in Saratoga Springs, New York, is offering a brand new course to its students this summer. The class is entitled "The Sociology of Miley Cyrus: Race, Class, Gender and Media," and the professor who will be teaching the course, Carolyn Chernoff, said that it will focus on role of race and

gender in pop culture. It will also examine the media's reaction and influence in Miley's career and pop culture in general.

Miley began working on her new image when she chopped off her long hair in favor of a short, platinum blonde pixie cut in August of 2012. Fans and critics were all shocked at the new look that seemed not to fit the Miley we all knew. Of course, this was just the first of many radical changes coming up in Miley's life. Next came her split from fiancé Liam Hemsworth in September 2013 after months of breakup rumors. This had a major impact on her music, and seems to have pushed her towards her new image.

The first huge scandal for Miley was her 2013 VMA performance which none of us are likely to forget any time soon. Miley was onstage "twerking" beside Blurred Lines singer Robin Thicke, dressed in nude colored underwear. The media was shocked, and for weeks it seemed that no one was talking about anyone but Miley Cyrus. She again made waves at the 2013 MTV EMAs in Amsterdam for smoking weed onstage while accepting her award.

While Miley has received much negative attention and criticism, she still has quite an impressive fan base. She has 17.7 million twitter followers, and over 10 million followers on Instagram. So, what is it about Miley

that is so attractive to her fans? Miley's disregard for society's expectations of modest dress has lead many people to say that she is a bad influence on the morality of girls. However, one fan said that "She actually makes me feel good about my body and appearance. A lot of people think she's gross or disgusting because she usually is in various states of undress. However this is actually empowering for me, I'm glad



to see another woman who's comfortable in her own skin and knows her body isn't taboo."

Our society certainly has many taboos when it comes to the body. Whether you have modest or liberal values, it is easy to see that the female body is highly constricted with rules about what is and is not appropriate. In many public schools, there are dress policies that forbid shorts that do not reach beyond your fingertips, shirts that reveal girls' shoulders, and even yoga pants and leggings. There are almost no dress code

restrictions placed on men.

It is more of the same in the media. During the 2014 Super Bowl halftime show, Anthony Kiedis, lead singer of the Red Hot Chili Peppers, performed shirtless beside Bruno Mars. Lil' Wayne performed shirtless at the 2012 VMAs. Justin Bieber performs shirtless at almost all of his concerts. For some reason, it is socially acceptable for these men to take their shirts off onstage without anyone giving it a second thought.

However, once Miley or any other female celebrity shows up in a revealing top, everyone seems to have a problem with it. Granted, there are physical differences between men and women, but Miley has never gone onstage without making sure she was covering what needed to be covered. One of the problems here is that the female body is highly over sexualized. There fact that girls are not allowed to wear tank tops and yoga pants in public schools shows that there is a serious issue with the way men view and treat women.

Miley herself said "I feel like I'm one of the biggest feminists in the world because I tell women to not be scared of anything... I'm for anybody. I'm for everybody, for everything. I don't care what you wanna do in your life, or who you wanna be with, who you wanna love, who you wanna look like."

There are those who believe that Miley's twerking and half nudity are a setback for feminism. However, consider the fact that feminism according to the Merriam-Webster online dictionary mean "the belief that men and woman should have equal rights and opportunities." Now consider the fact that Robin Thicke was onstage with Miley during her infamous VMA performance. He danced with Miley, and was a central part of the crazy performance. However, if you ask anyone their thoughts on that performance they likely will not even bring up Thicke's name. The media focused almost entirely on Miley's dress and behavior, criticizing her actions and looks. Miley's twerking became a national scandal, and yet they had nothing to say about the man standing behind her. This in itself proves that society has a double standard regarding gender and sexuality.

Although Miley is clearly no longer the type of celebrity children should be idolizing, with her drug use and nudity, she is having an important impact on sexism in the media. Some may believe that the bad parts of her image outweigh any good she may be doing. However, Miley's belief that everyone has the right to choose how they live their lives may be one of the biggest things to recently happen to feminism in pop culture.

Total lunar eclipse to take place on April 15

By David Huestis
Contributing Writer

Is this time of the year a little too “taxing” for everyone? Well, I’ve got the perfect astronomical event to help you relax. On April 15, stargazers here in Southern New England will have an opportunity to observe a total lunar eclipse. Though the Moon will set before the eclipse completes, we will be able to watch this celestial event from the beginning until just after the outgoing partial phase ends.

For some of you this lunar eclipse will be challenging to observe. Not technically challenging mind you – temporally so. It occurs on a Tuesday morning

between midnight and dawn. A workday for most. A schoolday for many others. However, if the weather cooperates, you can catch some shut eye during the previous evening, and then set an alarm clock for the specific phases of the eclipse you’d like to observe. A full schedule of the eclipse can be found at the conclusion of this column. Use it to plan out your morning.

While I encourage more dedicated Moon observers to watch the eclipse from start to finish, many casual stargazers may consider that decision sheer lunacy! Why not at least try to observe all of totality? This guide will provide all the details you’ll need to understand and enjoy the event. All times are EDT (Eastern Daylight Time), also known as DST (Daylight Saving Time).

A total lunar eclipse occurs at Full Moon when the Sun, Earth and Moon are in a straight line. With the Earth positioned in the middle of this celestial configuration, its shadow is projected onto the lunar surface.

The eclipse technically begins at 12:53:37 a.m. when the Moon, nestled among the stars of Virgo, slides eastward into the Earth’s light penumbral shadow. This dim initial phase is undetectable. Only as the Moon slides deeper into the penumbral shadow will a keen-eyed observer see a subtle shading of the lunar surface from left to right. It is just prior to the Moon entering the Earth’s dark umbral shadow that one notices that the moonlight looks somewhat subdued.

When the Moon first encounters the dark umbral shadow at 1:58:19 a.m., the partial phase of the eclipse begins. For one hour and eight minutes the Moon will move deeper and deeper into the dark shadow, generally from left to right. Then at 3:06:47 a.m. the Moon will be completely immersed in the Earth’s dark umbral shadow and totality begins. Will the Moon completely disappear from the sky during totality? It all depends upon how much dust is in the Earth’s atmosphere at eclipse time. We’ll know by mid-totality at around 3:45:40 a.m. Totality will



This five hour time-lapse is a total lunar eclipse on a single frame of film from November 8, 2003. (Bob Horton)

last until 4:24:35 a.m. for a total duration of one hour and eighteen minutes.

During totality please take careful note of the various hues of color on the lunar surface. Enhance your view with binoculars or a small telescope if you have them. The lunar landscape often looks ashen during totality, with subtle copper, orange or red tones scattered about. And the colors often change as totality progresses. So watch carefully. It is truly a beautiful sight to observe.

In addition, throughout the eclipse carefully scan the limb (edge) of the lunar disk using a telescope. This region of space is star-rich, so you’ll notice stars being covered on the left limb and uncovered on the right limb as the Moon moves eastward through the star fields.

Totality ends at 4:24:35 a.m. when the Moon begins to leave the dark shadow and sunlight returns to its surface. For one hour and eight minutes the partial phase will continue until the entire Moon is completely illuminated once again at 5:33:04 a.m. For a while the Moon’s light will still look somewhat subdued as the Moon will remain within the light

penumbral shadow until 6:37:37 a.m. when the eclipse ends. Usually in a dark sky you would be able to detect this shadow soon after the partial phase completes. However, Sun rise is at approximately 6:05 a.m., so bright twilight will most definitely spoil the view. Also, the Moon sets locally around 6:12 a.m., and unless you have an unobstructed west-southwestern horizon you’ll lose sight of the Moon before then anyway.

Throughout the eclipse I want you to notice the bright object below the Moon. It is Virgo’s brightest star Spica. Also, above and to the right about 7.5 degrees away you’ll see reddish Mars. Before the eclipse begins only a few bright stars will be seen since the Moon is full. As the eclipse progresses and the sky becomes darker, watch as the fainter stars emerge into visibility. Afterwards the dimmer stars will “disappear” when the lunar illumination returns.

I hope the weather will cooperate on the morning of April 15 for stargazers of every interest level to take advantage of the magnificent circumstances which produce the beauty of a total lunar eclipse. If you miss this one for

any reason we will have another total lunar eclipse opportunity on October 8. However, once again that one will also occur during the early morning hours. And regrettably, we will see only the partial phase before totality and only 31 minutes of totality here in Rhode Island before the Moon sets.

A chart of the important phases of the April 15 total lunar eclipse is provided. All times are Eastern Daylight Time.

Good luck, keep your eyes to the skies, and many happy returns!

In conclusion, please remember that the local observatories are open for your viewing pleasure. Visit their respective websites for public observing schedules. Seagrave Memorial Observatory (www.theskyscrapers.org) in North Scituate is open every clear Saturday night. Ladd Observatory in Providence is open every Tuesday night. Frosty Drew Observatory in Charlestown is open every clear Friday night.

Seagrave and Ladd will not be open for this total lunar eclipse. Frosty Drew plans on opening for the entire event. See their website for updates.

- 12:53 a.m.: eclipse begins, not detectable
- 1:58 a.m.: patial begins
- 3:06 a.m.: Totality begins
- 3:45 a.m.: mid-totality
- 4:24 a.m.: totality ends, patial begins
- 5:33 a.m.: patial ends, penumbral begins
- 6:37 a.m.: eclipse ends, not detectable

Featuring feminism: Sue Zarnowski

By Aubrey Waz
Contributing Writer

It is the hope of the Women’s Center and the Bryant Archway to make the Featuring Feminism column a permanent spot in the weekly newspaper. The intent of this column will be to highlight empowered women and men who strive to make a difference on Bryant’s campus, particularly in the realm of equality and acceptance of all students. Each week a student, staff, or faculty member can be nominated by Tuesday by sending an email to Aubrey Waz (awaz@bryant.edu) with an individual’s name and a brief description of why you believe this individual should be the following week’s featured feminist. This week, we are proud to highlight Sue Zarnowski!

Sue Zarnowski has been working here at Bryant University for the past seven months as the Assistant Director/Greek Life Advisor in the Office of Campus Engagement. In these past seven months, Zarnowski has definitely already left her mark on this campus through Greek Life and her involvement in the LEARN Leadership Weekend Experience.

Being a woman on a campus that is predominantly male can be both a positive and negative experience.

When asked about this Zarnowski stated that she feels empowered on the Bryant campus. Where many business colleges and universities have a ‘glass ceiling effect’ for women, Bryant does a lot to make sure that that does not happen. She also notes that being a member of the Bryant community makes her proud because she is able to make a difference on campus. Zarnowski notes that the manner



in which powerful and extremely powerful women unite on this campus is another one of the many reasons that she loves working here.

She does note, that there are negative things that she notices on campus that, though often prevalent on college campuses, can be reduced through a series of efforts by everyone on campus. She said that the most heartbreaking thing that she sees on campus is the number of young women that she sees struggle with body image. “So many people on campus appear to try to embody the stereotype of the ‘perfect woman’, when in reality there is no such thing as a perfect woman”. It is also challenging, says Zarnowski, to see college women adhering to sexist stereotypes regarding a woman’s ability to perform in the classroom as opposed to the kitchen, as well as the role that this can develop into with unhealthy relationships.

But Zarnowski does not despair and believes that with a positive attitude and a determined attitude that a change can be made to mitigate these negative situations. The positive influence that Zarnowski can have on these issues is exponential. Already she has changed the internal

‘The sooner you can discover your purpose and embrace who you are, the easier things will be and the more opportunities will arise.’

and external perceptions of Greek Life on campus and worked to foster a relationship of comraderie amongst all of the fraternities and sororities on campus. Zarnowski believes that the changes that she made to the atmosphere and environment within Greek Life have been her biggest achievements so far, since coming to Bryant in late August.

At the end of the interview, Zarnowski gave some words of wisdom to the members of the Bryant community: “The sooner you can discover your purpose and embrace who you are, the easier things will be and the more opportunities will arise.”

Are you with me on this?

Greek Life is more than you think

By Zach DiFranza
Staff Writer

Greek Life as a whole may seem like a group of people who only drink and party, but there is far more to this organization than meets the eye. For me, I have a top five reasons why Greek Life isn't as bad as everyone makes it out to be.

1. Semi-Exclusive

Bryant campus used to be dominated by the presence of Greek Life. In fact in the 70's and 80's almost 80% of undergraduate students proudly wore the letters of their organizations. However, Greek Life popularity has plunged over the recent decades, with only 6% of current students being Greek (According to Collegeprowler.com). In my opinion this is far from a negative thing, the less people involved in an organization, the better you get to know the other members. I have friends at schools where Greek life flourishes, but they don't even know the names of all of their 75+ brothers. Here at Bryant, I can not only easily list the 33 of my closest friends off the top of my head, but identify their character and tastes with great specificity. In other words, the fewer pieces in the puzzle, the larger percent of the picture each piece makes.

2. Greek Week

For those of you who think playoff football is the most intense competition that exists, I advise you to attend the Greek Week tournament. The events are designed to encompass a wide range of ability and some of the most popular include: Tug of War, Basketball, Lip Sync, and Volleyball. Every element of the competition lures out the "A" game of each fraternity and sorority. Tension, screaming, and intensity find themselves attending each event, including the mentally competitive Spelling Bee. Despite everyone's desire to win, the week promotes friendships and bonds to grow within the Greek community. Even during the basketball tournament, one of the most intense components, the losing teams shook hands with the

winners; a true display of the mutual respect that arises from healthy competition.

3. The Social Aspect

Yes, the weekends are fun filled, no that's not the "social aspect" of which I write. Fraternities and Sororities offer the unique opportunity to connect you with people who you may not have befriended yourself. It is human nature to associate yourself with people you perceive to be similar to you, but Greek Life gives you a unifying connection with a group of people who have a wide variety of talents and interests. That is perhaps the most valuable thing Greek Life has given me personally, friends who are different and encourage me to experience things I would have never pursued myself.

4. Philanthropy

My mother has always emphasized the importance of one's heart, and for someone given so much I have always felt obligated to give back. Every fraternity and sorority is required to engage in one community benefiting project per semester, but most significantly exceed the requirement. Many consider philanthropy the aspect that sets Greek Life apart as an organization, few other on campus groups mandate such activity, and almost none engage in it as actively as the Greek community does.



5. The Fit

Each fraternity and sorority has unique characteristics and behavior that contribute to the culture of their organizations. The respective cultures are quite distinctive and appeal to a different type of student. This is why freshman are granted the entirety of first semester to discover which, if any, Greek culture fits with their personal philosophy and practices. However, finding a group of people who fit and reinforce your own tendencies results in a memorable college experience, as well as life-long friendships.

So judge how you please, but look deeper into something before making assumptions.

Bryant Said What?!

Compiled by Bryant Students

"It's so nice out. We should day drink."

"I just really need McDonald's."

"Why do sorority girls travel in odds? Because they 'can't even.' "

"Sorry I seduced you with my corndog"

"At least I wasn't puking in the sink of a formal banquet hall"

Profit and Loss



Check out the Cameron Fitzpatrick 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament Fundraiser on Sunday at 1 p.m.!



Hungry? There have been food trucks on campus lately with new, exciting food!



Registration for classes is still really fun isn't it?



It's getting a little bit warmer out.. right?

Do you think you are psychic?

You may not believe in it, but being psychic may be a gift for someone who does!

By Molly Funk
Staff Writer

Do you feel in touch with the metaphysical world? Is déjà vu a regular and vivid experience? Anyone you ask will admit to uncannily predicting an event's outcome, or having a dream that later came true. Answer the following questions to determine whether you can contact spirits, predict the future, or use psychokinetic powers.

1. Have you ever met someone, and knew you had definitely met them before, even if they are completely new to you?

2. Have you ever been talking about someone, or even simply thought of someone (like your mom), and suddenly you look at your called ID to see him or her calling you?

3. Have you ever seriously heard someone else's thoughts or feelings without communicating with him or her? We can all admit to this one—every girl has definitely known what her best friend is thinking at one point in the friendship!

4. Have you ever had a near-death experience?

5. Have you ever felt as though something was going to go wrong, and then it did? We're not talking thinking you're going to fail an exam you didn't study for, more along the lines of knowing you would get in a car accident, and then believe it or not someone rear-ends you.

6. Have you ever experienced having a vision or dream in which you communicate with an acquaintance who you knew had passed away?

7. Have you ever felt something, or someone in your presence when you were absolutely alone? Many experience a cold chill floating through the room or a sudden emotional vibe taking them over.

8. Have you ever seen a spirit or aura in the room with you?

9. Have you ever thought about performing an action, to have it suddenly happen without your physical influence? For example, you're too lazy to get up and switch off the light, but the bulb unexpectedly burns out.



Chances are if you answered yes to any of the questions above you have elevated psychic abilities. Being a psychic doesn't mean that you perform voodoo or believe that you can move buildings with your mind. Instead these abilities refer to the simple experience with the metaphysical. No one is asking you to run around warning your peers of sudden mishaps or to predict your roommate's love life affairs.

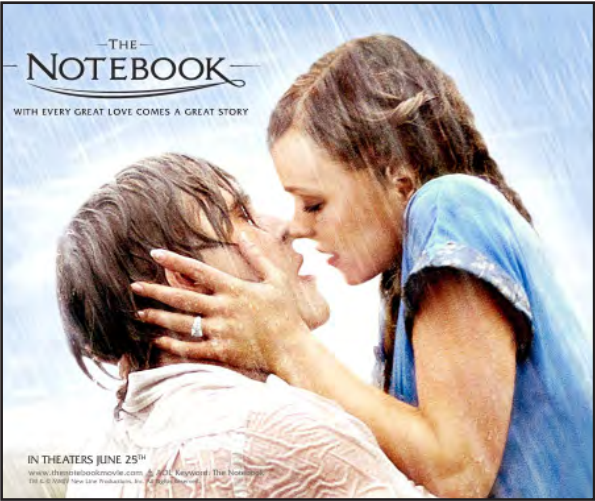
Tapping into your psychic abilities can be of some benefit, however. Being in touch with your supernatural side can help you maintain balance and control

in your life—if you have a feeling that Effins is going to be raided, opt to stay on campus; alternatively, if you sense you and your crush will hit it off Saturday night at the townhouses, remind yourself to wear an extra cute top. Déjà vu experiences will also feel less eerie and friendlier once you embrace the spiritual world. And who knows? You may just find you have a knack for helping others with your newly harnessed gift!

Books vs movies: which is better?

By Sarah Rozenberg
Staff Writer

Books are clearly better! You can read a book anywhere you please without the need for any technology. You can sit at home in bed on a rainy afternoon, or lie on the beach on a summer's day getting



lost in a new world. Movies require a television and a DVD player, both of which are normally kept inside, one more thing that books are better at; they can be carried just about anywhere. Many books also get turned into movies, which are great because you get to see the

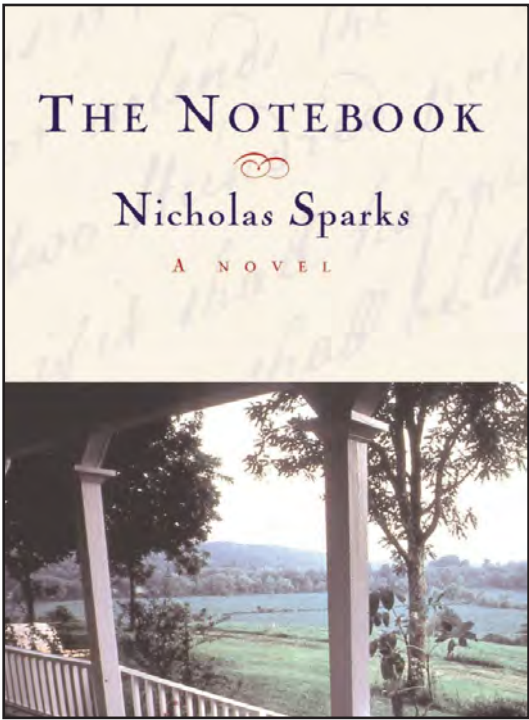
pictures in your head come to life, but there are many parts that are left out. There just is not enough time in a two hour movie to fit in all of the details. Reading a 300 page book takes roughly 4 or 5 hours, which may seem like a long time to some, but the hours spent reading a book are much more enjoyable then staring at a movie screen. Another benefit of reading is that you can break up the book into chapters. You do not have to sit there and read for 5 hours straight, whereas with a movie, it is very difficult to pause it and restart it later.

I have seen many movies that were originally books, and most of them do not live up to their print form. Only a select few were actually done very well, following close to the book script, but even those leave out some details. A couple movies that have been based off books even changed the ending completely.

One that most girls and probably guys too have seen is *The Notebook*. This movie, while very popular and quite a tear-jerker, has a different ending than the book. I will not reveal any details in case you have not read it, but this is only one example of a movie where the ending changes. The story is not the same as what the authors intended for readers to feel. The settings and characters are also completely different than what you picture in your head while reading. Once you see the movie, though, it is not easy to go back and imagine them as you did before.

One of the best things about books is being able to create for yourself a world that is unique to you. Nobody else will imagine the exact same pictures in their heads. The authors will help you out with descriptions of what the characters look like and what the scenery is, but a huge part of reading is imagination. Movies take all of

that creative thinking away. Authors put a lot of time and thought into their books, and they deserve to be read. I think it clear that books are truly better than movies, and in case these reasons are not enough, books have their own slogan.



Books

- Readers can paint their own pictures of scenes and settings
- You can imagine the characters looking however you want, you can give them whatever voice or accent you want, you can make yourself be the main character
- You get to know what the characters are thinking and feeling inside their minds; there is more than just dialogue
- Reading stimulates your brain, imagination is at play
- Books have much more content and detailed descriptions

Movies

- Scenes and settings are created for you
- Characters are made for you- the actors/actresses playing them are who they are, your own visuals of them are gone. Voices are also determined for you
- You can only interpret what the character is feeling through facial and body expressions and tone of voice
- No imagination, requires very little thinking
- Movies cannot include everything that happened in the book

The Lego Movie not as fun as it should be

By AJ Beltis
Staff Writer



The song released in connection with *The Lego Movie* is titled "Everything is Awesome." Unfortunately, that title isn't very accurate when being used to describe the film.

Your average, run-of-the-mill LEGO person, Emmett, is used to living every day just as scheduled. Wake up, work out, go to work at his construction site, then wonder why everyone else is out having fun without him. By chance, Emmett becomes involved in a resistance attempt to thwart the evil Lord Business from sealing off each of the LEGO worlds. Lord Business (Will Ferrell) wants to keep everything routine and doesn't want anyone stepping out of the place where they're supposed to belong.

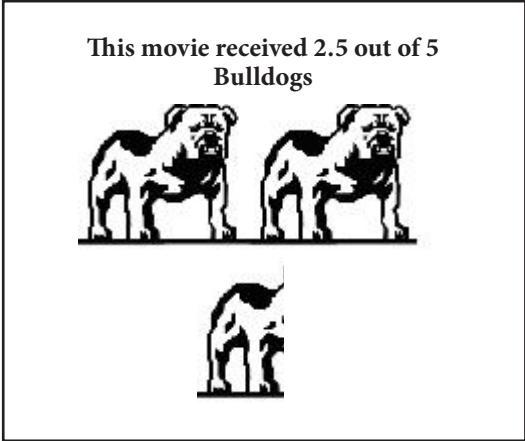
The resistance is made up of Emmett, an inept Batman, Batman's girlfriend Wyldstyle, and a god-like wizard voiced by Morgan Freeman. Working for Lord Business is a police officer (Liam Neeson), who is struggling to balance both good cop and bad cop personalities. The battle of evil control vs. free will and independence ensues, but unfortunately, The Lego Movie is never quite as good as everyone makes it out to be.

Some laughs come at the beginning, but as the minutes go by, the laughs become

more and more scarce. There's little to no drama, excitement, or memorable moments. And I know what you're thinking - "AJ, it's a kid's movie." Well, I have two counters to that. 1.) Animated kids movies can cater to children and still be enjoyable for adults if they're really good (see recent releases Frozen and Epic). And the second, well, I'll get to that in a bit.

Not only was the movie rarely a positive experience, it was rather dark and upsetting in some parts. Let's take a look at the cop character. His face is disturbingly erased by Lord Business - a cruel, uncaring villain who is completely unfit for a children's movie. In one scene, Business freezes the cop's kindhearted parents as the cop witnesses, unable to stop them. All the while, Business is smiling and basking in the emotional torment of his henchman. Now that's disturbing.

As promised, here's my second counter to the claim that the only reason I didn't love this is because I'm not a child. I saw this with my nine-year-old cousin, who during the film, leaned over to me and said, "AJ, this isn't that great. It's not as good as I thought it was gonna be." When a kids movie doesn't appeal to kids, that's saying something. And it's not saying anything good. The sporadic laughs of *The Lego Movie* and messages of individuality aren't enough to save the day from a mostly inconsistent and unimpressive movie experience.



Rise of the Guardians: a hilarious, enjoyable animated adventure

By AJ Beltis
Staff Writer



The last attempt at a movie about Jack Frost was in *The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause*, which was enjoyable, yet easily dismissible. Now, we’re introduced Frost in a new light, as a fun-loving and often overlooked magical figure, bringing snow days and blizzards to the world, wanting nothing but acknowledgment in return. In the wake of the re-emergence of the Boogeyman, Jack is called to join Santa, the Tooth Fairy, the Easter Bunny and the Sandman as a Guardian to protect kids from fear and to keep belief in their hearts.

The Boogeyman (referred to in the film as Pitch Black, Pitch for short) is tired of being forgotten and unnoticed, and plans to eradicate the Guardians’ existence by making the world forget about them, specifically by bringing nightmares to overpower Sandman’s dreams and sabotaging the Tooth Fairy’s nightly collections, and reinstate fear. Because of this, kids start to lose their faith, and the Guardians become weaker as Pitch gets stronger. Early on in the film, Jack brings a snow day to a young boy named Jamie and his friends. Jamie is the embodiment of innocence. Even though every single child in the world eventually stops believing, he doesn’t.

What really makes this movie such a standout is the original take on the characters. The Easter Bunny could’ve been a disgruntled mercenary or police chief in another life. Santa is a buff, tattooed guy with a Russian accent, and his elves are very similar to the minions in *Despicable Me* with their behaviors. Sandman is mime-like, and his

nonverbal communication comes off hilariously to the audience. Tooth Fairy doesn’t have a distinctly different character, but the idea of her having thousands of “Baby Tooth” fairies doing her job for her was a clever idea.

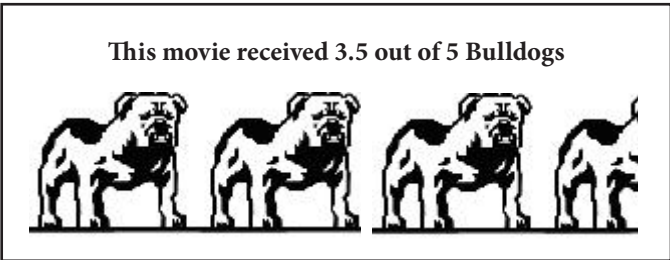
And finally, Jack. Jack resembles a teenage boy, sporting a hoodie and snow-white hair. He wonders why every other magical entity is seen, loved, and well-known while he is not. In the movie, he balances saving the world and discovering his past, and I must say that I loved going on Jack’s journey of self-discovery alongside him.

In a technical sense, this film also succeeds. An animated film has never won the Oscar for Best Production Design, but this might break the streak. The visuals and set pieces were so wonderfully and artistically animated. My eyes were never displeased, and the movie was a visual masterpiece. I have yet to see *Wreck-It Ralph* and *Brave*, but I don’t think a nomination for Best Animated Feature would be out of the realm of possibility either.

Overall, the screenplay was clever and sincere. What worked even better was when words were not employed. The elves, Baby Tooth fairies, Yetis who work in Santa’s workshop, and the characters of Sandman and Sophie (Jamie’s little sister) had little or no dialogue, but their presence added much of the comedy to the movie.

I’d be very interested to see a sequel to *Rise of the Guardians*, following a relationship between Jamie and Jack. There was a chunk in the movie that focused completely on the guardians, with no exposure to Jamie whatsoever. I get why they did this. This was Jack’s story, not Jamie’s. I loved Jamie’s character though, and given enough attention in a future installment could potentially make him as landmark a child character from an animated movie as Andy from *Toy Story*. A more in depth character study on him is something I would eagerly see.

This movie is a blend of *Despicable Me* and *The Avengers*. While I did enjoy *Despicable Me* more than this, and I didn’t get to see as much from the character Jamie as I would’ve hoped, I highly recommend this movie. It was definitely a film made for children, but I applaud it for its smart dialogue, original take on characters, and refusal to dumb down for its demographic. I also appreciate the idea of introducing Jack Frost to the world, and I wouldn’t be surprised if this movie caused kids to start running out to the streets on a snow day, yelling up to the sky with a grin, “Thank you, Jack Frost!”



Gay and Greek: The push for ‘active acceptant’

By Lucy Svoboda
Stanford College

As fraternity rush concludes its first week and sorority rush approaches, the challenges surrounding rush may be particularly accentuated – given the stereotypically heteronormative culture structuring Greek life – for members of Stanford’s LGBTQ community, some of whom enter the process with reservations about whether or not they will be accepted.

“I definitely had some initial hesitation and reservations about the whole process because of the fact that I am gay and because it is so traditionally heteronormative,” said Brandon Caruso ’16, a member of Sigma Nu. “Overall, there are definitely a couple of frats that I didn’t even consider, because of my personality maybe, but [also] I didn’t think I could see any gay guys going there and that kind of added to the feeling of being uncomfortable with it.” When Rob Franklin ’15, another openly gay member of the Greek community, went through fraternity rush, he limited his choices to just two fraternities.

“The decision to rush those two was probably somewhat affected by my ideas as a freshman on which fraternities were gay-friendly,” Franklin said.

Franklin reflected that thought process might have been misguided.

“I think more of them are more gay-friendly than I would have thought as a freshman,” Franklin explained. “I have gay friends in other fraternities as well who have had completely great experiences and I don’t think that I would have thought that as a freshman.”

However, Franklin’s perspective is not uncommon, especially with regards to rush. The Panhellenic system across America is no stranger to allegations of discrimination, and the traditional gender segregation of fraternities and sororities can make them seem especially unwelcome to queer-identifying students.

Franklin stressed that despite his own positive experience, the Greek community does seem closed off to students in general – intentionally or unintentionally – and particularly to minorities.

“I think that all of the Greek organizations just need to be more cognizant of how their reputation – knowing that their reputation may be completely flawed to what the actual community is like – looks like to the average Stanford student,” Franklin said. “And if they care about that and want to change that reputation then there are ways to show that they are more welcoming communities.”

This article appeared in the Stanford Daily.

THE POETRY CORNER

Too Far Gone
By Ashley Smith

Your own reality is defined by your own mind,
To blame outside forces is a waste of time.
Life’s a placebo; it’s what you make of it
Inhale the good, exhale the bad
Self-medicated by your own perceptions,
It could go right, it could go wrong
Just don’t lose control,
I lost control
My mind was engulfed by a wave of horror,
It suffocated as it sunk into despair.
My reality shattered into shards of pure, unadulterated fear
I couldn’t see, I couldn’t hear
Whatever you do, don’t collapse
I collapsed
My legs folded beneath me, my body went limp
I couldn’t stand, I couldn’t feel

I could only think...

I was trapped, my body suffering and impending doom
While my brain remained very much alive
My body is my coffin as it buries me alive
Now my brain is suffocating and my thoughts fade away

“Stay with me,” he said,
But I couldn’t stay

He slapped my face and held open my eyes in desperation,
But I couldn’t stay.
His voice seemed to grow farther and farther away,

I just couldn’t stay.

Comic of the Week



Inevitable Backlash from Comics Becoming Too Violent

Sudoku

Be the first person to bring the completed sudoku with correct answers to Monday’s meetings at 5:30 in Room 3 in the FSC and walk away with a prize!

1			5					2
	9		6		2			1
	4	5	9		1	6		7
	2	9						
3								5
						1	9	
7		4	1		6	2	5	
6			7		8		1	
9					5			8

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